

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : ALFRED EBBINGHAUS Docket No.: 02-139
Serial No.: Examiner :
Filed : Art Unit :
For : REINFORCED FORMED PART, PROCESS
FOR ITS PRODUCTION AND ITS USE

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New Haven, CT 06510-2802

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
United States Patent and Trademark office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In the above-identified application for United States
patent, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

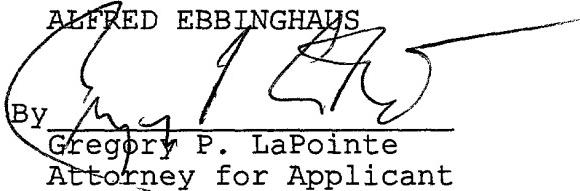
Please cancel claim 1, the only claim in the case.
Submitted herewith are new claims 15-17.

R E M A R K S

The instant Preliminary Amendment is submitted in order to
insert new claims 15-17.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED EBBINGHAUS
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Date: January 25, 2002

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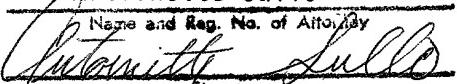
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

on January 25, 2002

(Date of Deposit)

Antoinette Sullo

Name and Reg. No. of Attorney


Signature

1-25-02

Date of Signature

NEW CLAIMS 15-17

15. A reinforced formed part comprising
a hollow metal external formed part having an internal
differing shape in at least one of a longitudinal shape and
cross-sectional shape and a metal foam located within said
hollow metal external formed part wherein the metal foam
has a shape substantially identical to the shape of the
hollow metal external formed part and wherein said metal
foam has a structure having high resistance to deformation
and said metal foam contacts said hollow external formed
part and fills same so as to improve (1) the elastic
properties, (2) the load bearing capacity and (3) the
resistance to deformation of the external formed part of
said reinforced formed part.

16. A reinforced formed part comprising
a hollow metal external formed part having an internal
shape and a metal foam located within said hollow metal
external formed part wherein the metal foam has a shape
substantially identical to the shape of the hollow metal
external formed part and wherein said metal foam has a
structure having high resistance to deformation and said
metal foam contacts said hollow external formed part and

fills same so as to improve (1) the elastic properties, (2) the load bearing capacity and (3) the resistance to deformation of the external formed part, said reinforced formed part being formed by the following steps:

forming a hollow metal external formed part;

locating a prepreg body within the hollow metal
external formed part;

providing a metal foam material within said hollow external formed part by foaming the prepreg body within said hollow external formed part; and

simultaneously with the foaming contacting said metal foam material with at least a part of the hollow metal external formed part, so that the foam rests in form-fit relation against the hollow metal external formed part.

17. A process for a production for a reinforced formed part comprising the steps of:

forming a hollow metal external formed part;

locating a prepreg body within the hollow metal external formed part;

providing a metal foam material within said hollow external formed part by foaming the prepreg body within said hollow external formed part; and